

to postpone any legislation for this territory, might become mischievous, and dangerous to the peace of the Union.

3. It would be highly offensive to the State of Texas, after giving her distinct warning not to attempt to establish any Government over this territory, (which she earnestly claims) to permit a State Government to be established there, which is no doubt intended, in some degree, as a fortification against her title.

4. There is no ground, or pretence, that there is a sufficient population there to entitle such State to a member, or even delegate, of the House of Representatives, much less, to two Senators.

*From Daniel C. Goddard.*⁸³

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Department of the Interior,

Sept. 2nd, 1850.

I have recived your note of this date by the hand of Mr. Lafayette G. Brown, whom it was my misfortune to be obliged to discharge from the Pension Office on Saturday last.

I had no acquaintance with Mr. Brown, nor I believe with any other of the gentlemen who were included in the same list. The duty of making any removals was a very painful one, and one which I would gladly have avoided. But, since the responsibility was imposed upon me, I could not shrink from it. I have no doubt of Mr. Brown's efficiency and fidelity as a Clerk. It is not improbable that I made a mistake in removing him. But I understand he is a Democrat, and I could not very consistently retain him and dismiss a Whig.

If I had the power I would gladly restore him to the place he occupied, But I find myself obliged studiously to abstain from making any appointments—

Being a mere *locum tenens* myself, I do not feel authorized to deprive the Secretary who is to come in, of any portion of the patronage which belongs to his Department, and which he only, has a right to dispose of.

Under these circumstances, I think you will agree with me that it is impossible for me to reappoint Mr. Brown.

⁸³ Daniel C. Goddard was chief clerk and twice secretary *ad interim* of the interior department.